

Brown's Berry Patch. The survival of this family farm over two centuries is a remarkable store of passion and hard work.

In 1804, Elijah and Bathshua Brown bought a 100-acre farm along the Oak Orchard River, just south of Lake Ontario, in what is now Waterport, NY. While moving his family to their new home, Elijah died, and Bathshua was left to settle her five sons and seven daughters in the unbroken wilderness of Upstate New York. Elijah Jr., planted the first apple trees in the county, and thus the Brown Family Farm began.

Bathshua began to build what would become one of the most historic and celebrated farms in Upstate New York. Years before, during the Revolutionary War, the British pillaged and burned the Browns' first farm on Fisher Island, CT. During the War of 1812, British war ships again threatened the Brown family as they patrolled the shores of Lake Ontario. In a remarkable coincidence, the very same captain who had burned the Brown's first farm was captured on the shores of Oak Orchard River and brought to Bathshua, the area's matriarch, for judgment. She let him go with a warning never to return.

Leadership of the Brown Family Farm passed from generation to generation. In 1895, Brown descendants Harry and Pearl began growing fruit on the farm. At one point, the family was said to have the largest quince orchard in the world. In the 1940's, the family transitioned out of growing fresh fruit, and began selling apples, quince, cherries, pears and plums for processing. Around 1980, Robert Brown II and his wife Deborah again transitioned the farm back into one that produced fresh fruit for consumption. They planted strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries for people to come pick themselves.

Today, under the leadership of Robert II and Deborah Brown, and Eric and Margy Brown, Brown's Berry Patch is one of the most popular agritourist destinations in Western New York, and a highly successful direct marketer of fresh produce. In 2003, the North American Farmers Direct Marketing Association Conference chose Brown's Berry Patch as a Farm Direct Marketer of the Year Finalist.

Visitors to Brown's Berry Patch come away not only with fresh, nutritious produce, but with memories that will last a lifetime. In an age when so many family farms struggle to survive, it is gratifying to know that Brown's Berry Patch is thriving, continuing to provide Western New York with fresh fruit and a greater understanding of traditional American agriculture. I congratulate Brown's Berry Patch on their 200th anniversary, and for their dedication to promoting tourism and agriculture in Western New York.

RECOGNIZING LEONARD PITTS, JR.
FOR BEING AWARDED THE 2004
PULITZER PRIZE IN JOURNALISM FOR COMMENTARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Leonard Pitts, Jr. of The Miami Herald, winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for Commentary.

As a long-time fan of Mr. Pitts' work, I am delighted that he has been honored with this very prestigious award.

Leonard Pitts is a hugely talented writer with a sharp eye and a sharp wit. Newspaper readers in Miami and around the country who are fortunate to read his column would surely agree. Mr. Pitts' work is an important contribution to the social and political debate in America, and I am immensely grateful for his dedication to upholding the highest standard of his craft.

Formerly a pop music critic, Leonard Pitts was hired by The Miami Herald in 1991. By 1994 he was writing about race and current affairs in his own column. Syndicated nationally, Leonard Pitts 1999 book *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood* was a bestseller.

After the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., Pitts' Herald column headlined "We'll Go Forward From This Moment" was widely circulated on the Internet and frequently quoted in the press. In the column, Pitts bluntly expressed his anger, defiance and resolve to an unnamed evil terrorist. He wrote, "You monster. You beast. You unspeakable bastard." These words, which I remember reading the first time, expressed what so many of us were feeling at the moment and still feel today.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share this moment with Leonard Pitts, Jr. and his family. On behalf of this body, I express my congratulations to him and wish him well.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF ST. PAUL'S HOUSE

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the veterans of World War II who now make their home at St. Paul's House and Health Center in Chicago.

Their wartime experiences are as varied as the paths they took following the war, but all remain united to defend the values that shape our identity as a nation: love of freedom and respect for human dignity.

Few members of "greatest generation" spoke about their wartime experiences without evoking painful physical and emotional recollections of the horrors of their experiences in World War II.

Still, in their seventies and eighties, the veterans of St. Paul's House are again demonstrating their heroism and commitment to this country by recounting these memories for the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology and the United States Library of Congress.

As Memorial Day approaches and we prepare to dedicate the National World War II Memorial in our nation's capital, it is my honor and privilege to pay tribute to the each of St. Paul's World War II veterans—and their families—who proudly wore the uniform of their country, endured the rigors of the war, and fought for our liberty and the freedom of future generations of Americans:

Betty Barouski, Lawrence Bunge, Betty Bunge, Edward Bylica, Loraine Bylica, Milton Cohen, Leslie Cousins, Hilda Cousins, spouse, Harry DeCourres, Mildred Eiman,

Margret Ehmann, Sima Eckma, Henry Faeth, Alice Faeth, Henry Grantschnig, Henry Kaster, John Lasser, Heinze Ledtje, Vladan Markovic, John Persson, William Prielozny, Fred Schubert, Frank Sontowski, Bruno Solback, Lydia Sollberger, Charles Tennent, George Wahl, Albert Wood, Lucille Wolf.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICHoice

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of AmeriChoice for its ten years of quality health care services to the many residents of Brooklyn.

AmeriChoice began serving residents of Brooklyn in January 1994 as Managed Healthcare Systems (MHS), and today, it is a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program.

AmeriChoice is one of the few for-profit companies that has long been and continues to remain committed to the vital public sector segment of the health care market. Currently, it serves more than 100,000 members with a staff of 170 dedicated employees.

In spite of its growing members, AmeriChoice has maintained a personalized focus to members' health care needs using the innovative Personal Care Model which extends beyond the traditional borders of health care to involve families, community organizations and government agencies in developing practical solutions which maintain the highest possible functional health status for members.

AmeriChoice has received a national HERA Award from the American Association of Health Plans which recognizes the significant work this health plan has done to increase the number of children receiving five or more comprehensive well-child visits with a physician during the first 15 months of life.

Mr. Speaker, AmeriChoice has been a valued organization of the Brooklyn community for ten years, serving as a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program. As such, it is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable organization.

RECOGNIZING THE MARLA BENNETT ISRAEL DISCOVERY CENTER AND GARDEN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden at the Shalom Institute Camp and Conference Center, home of Camp JCA Shalom, located in the beautiful Malibu mountains.

The Center will be dedicated on June 6, 2004 in honor of Marla Bennett, a remarkable